

b.) Remarks

Claim 2 has been amended in order to recite the present invention with the specificity required by statute. Additionally, new Claim 6 is presented solely in order to more specifically recite various preferred embodiments of the present invention.

The subject matter of the amendment to claim 2 is found in claim 3 and in the specification at page 11, lines 19-21. The subject matter of new claim 6 is found in the specification from page 7, line 9 to page 8, line 1, page 8, lines 10-11 and 18-24, page 9, lines 10-16 and 17-22, and page 11, lines 2-11 and 14-16. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Claims 1-2 and 4-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by JP 2001-166131. This rejection is respectfully traversed. However, in view of the Examiner's indication that claim 3 recites patentable and unobvious subject matter, and is objected to only as depending from a rejected base claim, antecedent claim 2 has been amended above to recite those features. Claims 1, 3 and 5 are cancelled in order to reduce the issues and claim 4 is amended to maintain its dependency.

The Examiner's effort and cooperation in expediting the prosecution of this application by examining separately the subject matter of Applicants' dependent claims is gratefully acknowledged.

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection is mooted by the above cancellation of this claim.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the Examiner's concerns are now overcome and the claims are now in allowable condition. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application is earnestly solicited.

Claims 2, 4 and 6 remain presented for continued prosecution.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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